

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-06 INR-07 NSAE-00 AID-05 USIA-15
AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12 NEA-10 EB-08 ISO-00
SIG-02 AGRE-00 COME-00 TRSE-00 CAB-05 DODE-00
DOTE-00 FAA-00 /121 R

DRAFTED BY IO/IBC/BA:JAMCGRATH:IO/ML:CTSPEH:MJS
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IO/TRC:CRHARTLEY
IO/ML:WPKRIEBEL
EUR:DGOOTT- EB/TT/OA:AJWHITE
EA/RA:LMCNUTT
NEA/RA:DMORRISON
ARA/RPP:PEOAKLEY
AF/AF:I:LGSHURTLEFF

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY FREETOWN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA PRIORITY
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AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KINGSTON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY RABAT PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY VALLETTA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON PRIORITY
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
AMCONSUL MONTREAL
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS STATE 207345

NESCO, FODAG, ICAO, VIENNA FOR USIAEA AND UNIDO

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: AORG, ICAO, UN

SUBJECT:LANGUAGE USER COSTS IN ICAO

1. ASSEMBLY OF INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION (ICAO), COMMENCING SEPTEMBER 13 AT MONTREAL HEADQUARTERS, WILL CONSIDER INTRODUCTION OF CHINESE AS WORKING LANGUAGE. FYI: U.S. WILL NOT OPPOSE CHINESE PROPOSAL. END FYI. ICAO PRESENTLY USES ENGLISH, FRENCH, SPANISH, AND RUSSIAN AT ANNUAL COST OF DOLLARS 5,540,000 OR ABOUT ONE-THIRD OF ANNUAL BUDGET. LIMITED ARABIC IS ALSO USED AT ADDITIONAL COST. ICAO ESTIMATES COST OF AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE AT DOLLARS 1,355,000 ANNUALLY. AS PART OF THE ASSESSMENT BUDGET, THE COST IS DISTRIBUTED AMONG ALL MEMBERS IRREGARDLESS OF THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS WHO BENEFIT. THE PROPORTION OF ICAO BUDGET DEVOTED TO LANGUAGE SERVICES RAISES QUESTION OF PRIORITIES, ESPECIALLY SINCE ENGLISH IS LANGUAGE OF INTERNATIONAL AVIATION.

2. U.S. INTENDS TO SUBMIT A RESOLUTION INSTRUCTING ICAO COUNCIL (30 MEMBER GROUP WHICH MEETS BETWEEN TRIENNIAL SESSIONS OF ASSEMBLY) TO REEXAMINE CONCEPT OF USER COSTS FOR LANGUAGE SERVICES AND TO SUBMIT TO THE NEXT ASSEMBLY IN 1980, A REPORT SHOWING THE COSTS OF THE SERVICES OF EACH

LANGUAGE IN ICAO, THE NUMBER OF STATES USING EACH LANGUAGE, AND WHAT SAVINGS COULD BE MADE IN THE ICAO BUDGET, BY ALLOCATING THE COSTS FOR THE SERVICES OF EACH LANGUAGE AMONG THE STATES USING THAT LANGUAGE, ON A USER COST FORMULA.

3. THE PLAN WOULD DISTRIBUTE THE COST OF PROVIDING SERVICE IN A SPECIFIC LANGUAGE, INCLUDING ENGLISH, AMONG THE USERS OF THAT LANGUAGE. THIS METHOD WOULD ALLOW MEMBERS UNCLASSIFIED

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THE PRESTIGE OF USING THEIR NATIONAL LANGUAGE IF THEY PAY THE BILL FOR IT; IT WOULD ALSO ALLOW SOME SAVINGS TO THOSE WHO CHOOSE TO SHARE THE COSTS OF THE MORE WIDELY USED LANGUAGES.

4. FYI: ALLOCATION OF LANGUAGE COSTS WAS LAST CONSIDERED IN 1950, REPEAT 1950, WHEN THERE WERE THREE LANGUAGES. AT THAT TIME IT WAS DECIDED THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO SEPARATE ALLOCATION OF LANGUAGE COSTS. END FYI.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: PROVIDING EMBASSY FORESEES NO OVERRIDING OBJECTIONS, ADDRESSEES ARE REQUESTED TO CONTACT HOST GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR POSITIONS ON ICAO MATTERS OR, IN HIS ABSENCE, INFLUENTIAL MEMBER OF DELEGATION TO ASSEMBLY. YOU SHOULD SEEK AGREEMENT TO CO-SPONSOR RESOLUTION OR VOTE FOR RESOLUTION. PROMPT ACTION IS INDICATED BECAUSE OF TIGHT TIMING. YOU SHOULD DRAW ON TALKING POINTS BELOW, WHICH MAY BE GIVEN TO HOST GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE AS APPROPRIATE.

6. TALKING POINTS: POSTS SHOULD DRAW ON FOLLOWING TALKING POINTS DURING DEMARCHES:

THE U.S. DOES NOT INTEND TO OPPOSE THE CHINESE RESOLUTION FOR INCLUDING CHINESE AS AN ICAO LANGUAGE. HOWEVER, THE U.S. IS CONCERNED THAT THE ICAO ASSEMBLY WILL CONSIDER THE INTRODUCTION OF ADDITIONAL WORKING LANGUAGES AND, BELIEVES THE GENERAL QUESTION OF COSTS OF WORKING LANGUAGES SHOULD BE REEXAMINED.

THE PROBLEM IS NOT ONE OF A MULTIPLICITY OF LANGUAGES BUT RATHER THE COSTS OF AND METHODS USED FOR PAYING FOR LANGUAGE SERVICES. LANGUAGE SERVICES ALREADY CONSUME UNCLASSIFIED

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ABOUT ONE-THIRD OF THE ANNUAL ICAO BUDGET. ADDING ADDITIONAL LANGUAGES WILL INCREASE THE COST OF LANGUAGES SERVICES TO AN EVEN HIGHER PORTION.

THE U.S. BELIEVES THAT THESE DEVELOPMENTS ARE UNNECESSARY,
AND IN LIGHT OF OTHER PRIORITIES, NOT JUSTIFIABLE.

WE INTEND TO SUBMIT A RESOLUTION TO THE ICAO ASSEMBLY IN MONTREAL, INSTRUCTING THE ICAO COUNCIL TO REEXAMINE THE CONCEPT OF USER COSTS FOR LANGUAGE SERVICES, AS APPLIED TO ICAO. THE ICAO COUNCIL WOULD BE ASKED THEN TO SUBMIT A REPORT OF ITS FINDINGS TO THE NEXT ASSEMBLY IN 1980.

WE HOPE THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF ----- AGREES WITH THE NEED FOR KEEPING LANGUAGE SERVICE COSTS TO A MINIMUM AND FOR DEVELOPING A MORE RATIONAL BASIS FOR DISTRIBUTING LANGUAGE COSTS AND WILL CO-SPONSOR THE RESOLUTION WHEN IT IS INTRODUCED AT THE ICAO ASSEMBLY.

7. ADDRESSEES HAVE BEEN SELECTED PRIMARILY ON BASIS OF (1) SOME COUNTRIES WHOSE LANGUAGES ARE NOT AT PRESENT WORKING LANGUAGES AND WHICH COUNTRIES BY FOREGOING USE OF THEIR LANGUAGES, HAVE ACTED RESPONSIBLY TO KEEP ICAO COSTS DOWN (2) COUNTRIES WHO ARE ON RECORD AS HAVING CONCERN WITH RISING COSTS OF LANGUAGE SERVICES, AND/OR (3) ENGLISH-SPEAKING COUNTRIES WHO, AS MEMBERS OF LARGEST LANGUAGE GROUP, WILL PAY LESS FOR LANGUAGES.

8. FOR BONN AND VIENNA: FRG, GDR AND AUSTRIA PRESENTLY PAY COST OF LIMITED GERMAN IN UN.

9. FOR OTTAWA: WE RECOGNIZE THAT CANADA'S BILINGUAL STATES MAY PRESENT COMPLICATING FACTOR TO BE CONSIDERED IN COUNCIL STUDY.
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10. FOR WELLINGTON: IN 1974, IN RESPONSE TO A PROPOSAL OF GERMAN-SPEAKING NATIONS THAT THE COSTS OF LIMITED GERMAN BE ADDED TO THE UN BUDGET, NEW ZEALAND MADE DEMARCHES IN WASHINGTON, OTTAWA, CANBERRA AND LONDON TO OPPOSE. THE PROPOSAL WAS WITHDRAWN.

11. FOR BUENOS AIRES AND RABAT: ARGENTINA AND MOROCCO AT MARCH 1977 COUNCIL MEETING OPPOSED EFFORT TO INCLUDE REFERENCE TO ARABIC AS WORKING LANGUAGE OF ICAO IN WORKING PAPER.

12. FOR LAGOS: AT MARCH 1977 COUNCIL, NIGERIA EXPRESSED CONCERN RE ESCALATING COSTS AS WELL AS EROSION OF EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATIONS.

CHRISTOPHER

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ORIGIN EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 /027 R

66011
DRAFTED BY EA/PRCM:SSTANFIELD:CED
APPROVED BY EA/PRCM:HETTHAYER
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R 010127Z SEP 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USLO PEKING
AMCONSUL HONG KONG

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FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 207345 ACTION ANKARA ATHENS BANGKOK BONN
BRASILIA BRIDGETOWN BUENOS AIRES CANBERRA COLOMBO COPENHAGEN
DAR ES SALAAM DUBLIN FREETOWN GEORGETOWN THE HAGUE HELSINKI
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RABAT REYKJAVIK ROME SINGAPORE STOCKHOLM TEHRAN TEL AVIV TOKYO
VALLETTA VIENNA WELLINGTON GENEVA MONTREAL USUN NEW YORK 30 AUG 77

QUOTE

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NESCO, FODAG, ICAO, VIENNA FOR USIAEA AND UNIDO

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CHRISTOPHER.
UNQUOTE

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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Control Number: n/a
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
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Secure: OPEN
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TAGS: AORG, ICAO, UN
To: ANKARA ATHENS MULTIPLE
Type: TE
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